



# LUFF WIRE

## COLUMBIA BASIN SAILING CLUB

### TRI-CITIES, WASHINGTON



#### MAY

COMMODORE: Glen Kuhn.....586-9084  
VICE COMMODORE: Al Hopp.....545-4447  
TREASURER: Jim Grimes.....627-6240  
SECRETARY: Joan Casey.....783-2403  
EDITOR: George Perkins.....586-4771

RACING:  
DESERT REGATTA: Jim Krogness.....943-4082  
RESCUE BOAT:  
EDUCATION: Darroll Clark.....582-9675  
CLUB SOCIALS:  
PUBLIC RELATIONS/PUBLICITY:

May 1990

## Commodore's Corner

This months Luff wire is a little early, to give you a chance to get registered for

the Desert Regatta. Mac Calloway tells me that the Taser fleet had such a good time last year that there will be more this year. John Hubbe has also assured me that we will be inundated with C-15's or at least a couple. There is also a letter being sent to the Flying Scot fleet members extolling the joys of spring racing in the Columbia Basin. I really feel that this will be one of the best Desert Regattas ever.

If you are not racing at least come out and cheer on our local crews, they need all the help they can get.

There has been some questions concerning the racing results and the handicapping formula. Earlier this year when the racing schedule was originally laid out it was decided that the Portsmouth handicapping system would be used for all of the boats, in anticipation of a larger number of unballasted boats. Since that has not materialized and the PHRF to Portsmouth conversion is not consistent for boats that do not already have a portsmouth rating, the feeling is that there is no reason to penalize the PHRF fleet. So we will use the PHRF ratings for that fleet and the Portsmouth ratings for the unballasted boats keeping the results separate, as we have done in the past. The next race results sheet will reflect the standings corrected for this change.

Several news items that have come to my attention lately:

Congratulations to the Krognesses on the marriage of their daughter this winter.

I would also like to extend our condolences to the Krogness family on the loss of Jim's father this past month.

The club handicap committee is going to have to meet to determine what should be done about a bionic helmsman. Rick Ashworth is now marching to a different drummer (pacemaker). Get well soon Rick, I can't wait to see if it will help on the race course.



7

Vice-Commodore Al Hopp suggested the Club consider the possibility of a clubhouse and will arrange to have Dwight Affleck -- who has some ideas on this subject -- come to the Executive Committee meeting (see Exec. Comm. Mins. and the article on the Grande Maumelle Sailing Club).

After receiving information from Com. Kuhn, a motion was passed authorizing the opening of an account at Fisheries Supply in Seattle. Members will be able to order with cash or credit card by using the Club's account number at wholesale plus 5%: Fisheries wants to send everything to our Club address so you'll have to pick it up. They charge \$10 for a catalog -- 644 pages with a comprehensive index -- but credit it back to your first \$100 order.

Com. Kuhn reported the rescue boat is in good shape, and that next year we ought to be thinking about purchasing some new marks.

He described a wonderful whale-watching trip to the San Juans. Many, many whales. Amazingly, they'll come right up the the boat and let you scratch their backs! It removes barnacles or something. Being that close to them must be quite a experience.

NEXT MEETING    7:30 P.M. MAY 9, 1990  
 BACK ROOM / DECK      GASLIGHT TAVERN  
 CLUB      BUYS      THE      FIRST      PITCHER!



We're reprinting the following article with permission from American Sailor, the newsmagazine of the USYRU.

Your first reaction after reading the article might be: Well, yes, but they've got a lot more people to work with. Not true. Greater Little Rock boasts 181,030 people, not even twice our population. Food for thought!

The spirit and organization and commitment are certainly transferable. You'll find this a very inspiring article.

## SAILING IN ARKANSAS

# Sailing in Arkansas: A Well-Kept Secret Grande Maumelle Sailing Club of Little Rock

BY DAN DAUGHERTY

**A** bald eagle cautiously follows a fleet of keelboats from a safe altitude in the winter sky over Lake Maumelle. As the boats round the turning mark, a fantastic display of spinnakers unfurls and creates a line of color along the downwind leg. By mid-April the scene has changed. The big boats are back in their slips and the sailors have stowed their foul weather gear and boarded Thistles, Flying Scots, Y-Flyers, Hobie 16s and Lasers for the summer. During both seasons, the camaraderie and fellowship is as important as the intense competition at Grande Maumelle Sailing Club (GMSC) near Little Rock, Arkansas.

Since its beginning in 1959, GMSC has grown to become one of the best kept inland sailing secrets in the country. Tucked away in the foothills of the Ozarks, Lake Maumelle is a water supply reservoir for Little Rock and is located about 15 miles west of the city. Thanks to a lease and a carefully nurtured relationship with the Little Rock Water Board, GMSC has its home on a beautiful lake where the club and three public marinas are the only signs of civilization on the hilly, wooded lakeshore. With plenty of open, relatively deep water and no water skiing allowed, the lake is an inland sailor's paradise. Today, with more than 160 family memberships at GMSC, racing remains the life blood of the club and has proven to be the key to its success. On any given race day during the club's 12-month racing schedule, an average of 150 sailors can be found in competition on the race course.

"In any sailing club, when interest in racing declines, the club will suffer," said GMSC Commodore Bud Thurman. "We've seen this happen to clubs in other cities so we've been extremely careful to keep racing at the forefront of our club activities."

GMSC is serious about the emphasis on racing. The club requires that each new member own a boat that is part of an active racing class sanctioned by the Board of Directors. In addition, a new skipper must participate in a least 25% of the races held by his fleet during the first year of membership. The club holds a total of 60 club races—all conducted in accordance



Grande Maumelle Sailing Club flag officers are (l to r) Doug Buffalo, Vice Commodore; Jack Myers, Treasurer; Bud Thurman, Commodore; and Drew Daugherty, Secretary.

with USYRU rules and standards — throughout the year. The result is that most new members get hooked on racing and stay hooked for life.

"We strongly believe that active centerboard racing is vital to our club," Thurman said. "We have a unique split season which was originally designed to encourage centerboard racing. Our centerboard fleets race from mid-April to mid-October, and our keelboat fleets race from mid-October to mid-April. We were afraid that new sailors might take the attitude that 'bigger is better' and miss the experience of dinghy racing. The split season has worked as intended, resulting in a strong centerboard program; but it has also produced a strong keelboat program — the best of both worlds. This way, club members who wish to do both are not forced to make a choice. They can enjoy both keelboat and centerboard racing without conflicting schedules. With our large cross-over between the two programs, they are synergistic rather than competing."

Leland Sykes, a Laser sailor, explained his perspective of GMSC — a perspective that is typical of the club's members: "I can leave my office in Little Rock and be on an uncrowded, beautiful lake in 20 minutes," Sykes said. "In the summer I race

my Laser, and in the winter I crew on a Soverel 30. I have a great club where my family can sail, picnic, and visit with friends; and I have all this for less than \$50 in monthly dues. Few people would believe that such a place exists in the middle of Arkansas."

For a group of weekend sailors, the level of competition at Lake Maumelle is impressive. Little Rock's GMSC has produced national champions in the Flying Dutchman and Gulf Coast 23 classes, semi-finalists in the Mallory Cup and Alter Cup Regattas, as well as first place overall finishers in the Marion to Bermuda and St. Petersburg to Isla Mujeres offshore races. GMSC has also been home to four national one-design class presidents and has hosted six national championship regattas for three different one-design classes. The club has held numerous Thistle district and inter-district regattas, a Worlds qualifier event for Lasers and, in June 1990, GMSC will host its fourth Y-Flyer Nationals.

GMSC perpetuates its love of sailing through its Junior Program and Learn to Sail instruction for youngsters from inside and outside the membership. Young people are taught by GMSC members who are certified USYRU instructors. Five





Past commodore Hal Daugherty admires GMSC's keelboat fleet. Centerboard boats and other club facilities are nestled among the trees in the background.

club-owned Optimist Prams help young newcomers develop skills and get their first taste of competition.

Parties and social events rate a close second to racing on GMSC's list of priorities. The annual "Spring Fling," traditionally held the night before the first centerboard race, is held on the deck of the clubhouse overlooking the lake, as a celebration of the

coming of centerboard season. In November, the club holds a more formal "Fall Ball" awards banquet in Little Rock.

"A lot of our social gatherings are impromptu," said Hal Daugherty, a charter member and past commodore of GMSC. "A cold beer produced from an ice chest and shared with the guy who just clobbered you on the race course, or getting people

together at the last minute for a moonlight sail in the summertime -- you can always expect to find this at GMSC. Even when we manage to find our way into black ties at the Fall Ball, it's difficult not to totally relax and be yourself around GMSC folks."

In 1989, GMSC celebrated its 30th anniversary. In planning the future, Commodore Thurman values the basic club philosophy that has worked so well over the years.

"We call ourselves a 'sailing club,' not a yacht club," Thurman said. "We're not fancy; we're fun! We've built our own club house, docks, launch ramps and cranes largely with our own hands. We've tried to keep our club dues low so that no interested sailor is excluded for economic reasons. And we've tried to ensure that the racing class boats sanctioned by the club represent enough variety to fit everyone's pocket-book and preference. Our members all have one thing in common -- a passion for sailing and all the good things that happen as a result of sailing." ■

#### CALENDAR

May 5,6	Desert Regatta
May 19,20	Hobie Tumbleweed Tack
May 28	Memorial Day Sun Bake, pot luck, water skier dodge
June 15	Centennial Flotilla - Lewiston, Idaho





# Desert Regatta 1990

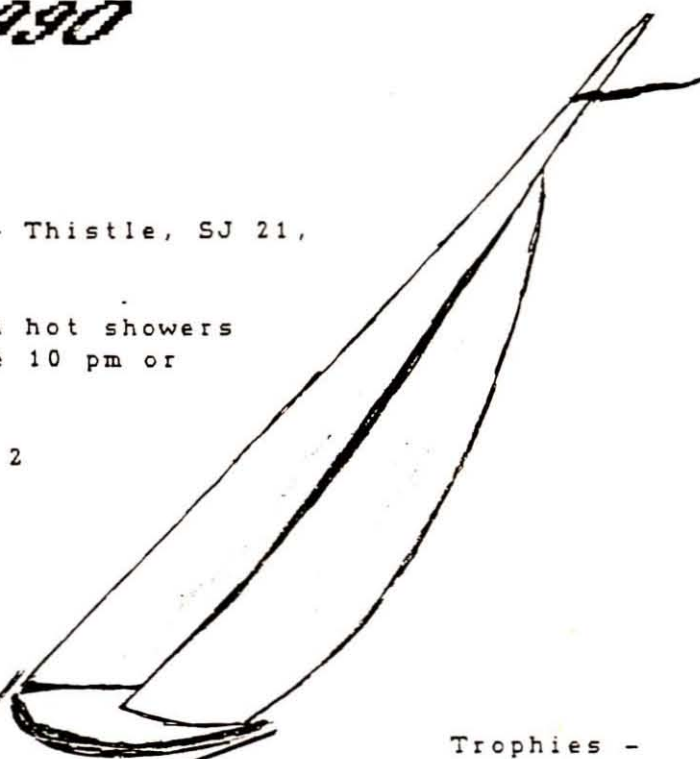
May 5 and 6 - 1990

Charbonneau Park on the Snake River  
20 Miles N.E. of Pasco, Wa.

Boats - One design and Handicap fleets - Thistle, SJ 21,  
Laser, Hobie, Open, PHRF

Accommodations - Camping in the park with hot showers  
and electricity. Arrival must be before 10 pm or  
after 6 am. Motels in Pasco.

Racing - 3 or 4 races on Saturday, 1 or 2  
races on Sunday. No starts after 1 pm  
on Sunday. All races sailed under  
USYRU as modified by CBSC and/or PHRF



Trophies -

1 for 4 boats

2 for 7 boats

2 for 7 boats, 3 for 10 boats  
4 for 15 boats, 5 for 20 boats

Fees - Early Registration \$16, On  
race day \$20

Dinner - \$7.00 Mexican Taco/Burrito

Buffet (time to be announced)

Saturday May 5  
Coffee and Registration 7:30 - 9:00am  
Skippers's Meeting 9:00am  
First Race 10:00 am

+ Sunday May 6  
+ Coffee and Donuts 7:00 - 9:00am  
+ First Race 9:00am  
+ ...

For more information contact: Glen Kuhn 509-586-9084, evenings

## Desert Regatta 1990 Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Class or boat type \_\_\_\_\_ Sail Number \_\_\_\_\_

Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Number of dinners \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Columbia Basin Sailing Club

Mail Registration to: Columbia Basin Sailing Club

Desert Regatta  
P.O. Box 1063  
Richland, Washington  
99352-1063



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES - 4-17-90

Present:	Glen Kuhn	Ralph Kelley
	Al Hopp	Dennis Trimble
	Jim Grimes	Jack Yates
	Joan Casey	Tom Morgan
		Dwight Affleck

Desert Regatta: Registrations are just starting to come in but it looks like we'll have Thistle, C-15, PHRF, multi-hull, Snipe and Tasar fleets.

Race Committee: Ralph Kelley reported on work done re organizing and running the race.

Al Hopp presented several beautiful tee shirt designs and will order both short- and long-sleeved shirts.

Dwight Affleck presented some ideas for a clubhouse. There was considerable discussion and he will follow up and report back to us.

If your mailing label is highlighted, ya'all gotta git us sum moola! When you fill out the application blank, make a little note on the bottom as to which Standing Committee you find the most interesting. After everybody assigns themselves to something, we'll sort out the chairmen, etc. If everybody can help a little, it shouldn't take much of anybody's time.

For those who have already sent in their ap, the officers will be around sooner or later to inquire about your interests.

The neat new Luff Wire masthead is the work of John Werner and represents some considerable time and effort on his part. Couldn't hurt to tell him thanks -- but don't try to give him any business; you'll just make him mad.



CENTENNIAL FLOTILLA sets sail June 15 - All boaters are invited to participate in the Idaho Centennial Flotilla in Lewiston, slated June 15-17. The weekend of June 15-17 will feature a number of boating and water-related events in commemoration of Idaho's 100th anniversary as a state. Lewiston, the Idaho territorial capital at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers. Boaters have been invited to plan water trips meeting at Snake River's Boyer Park, 33 miles downriver from Lewiston-Clarkston the evening of Thursday, June 14. Boats will go in a group to Lewiston on Friday, June 15, with planned arrivals through mid-afternoon.

There is a group from the Tri-Cities going upriver that week to arrive in Boyer on or before the 14th. If you are interested, please contact George Perkins at 586-4771.



## We Do Chicken Right.



**Kentucky Fried Chicken.**

### ICE HARBOR MARINA

Slips, Dry Storage, Sailboat Rentals, and Lessons  
Dwight Affleck 545-1573



*Tri Cities*  
*Housing Guild, Inc.*



Roger McVicker  
ASSOCIATE BROKER, GRI, CRS

1405 COLUMBIA CENTER BLVD.  
RICHLAND, WA 99352 (509) 783-5437 RES. 375-0438

### WONDRACK DISTRIBUTING, INC. CHEVRON PRODUCTS

TRI-CITY COURT CLUB & HEALTH STUDIO  
1350 N. Grant 783-5465

### DESERT AIR SAILBOATS & EQUIPMENT

Catalina Racing & Cruising Boats, Capri Sailboats,  
Nacra Catamarans, AMF Alcott, Lasers,  
Sailboat Rentals and Lessons,  
Brokerage at 516 Wellsian Way, Richland  
Morley Paul 946-5883



**SHORE SAILS**  
PUGET SOUND

Dennis Clark

1607 Dexter Avenue N.  
Seattle, WA 98109

(206) 284-3730

1718 West A Street  
Pasco, WA 99301  
545-9848

**Mike Campbell**  
Sales & Service

*Campbell & Bruce*

REFRIGERATION SERVICE

Columbia Basin Sailing Club  
P. O. Box 1063  
Richland, WA 99352



631 1143

Ken Nelson  
3802 W. 15th  
Kennewick, WA 99336